

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

CONTACT: JULIAN RHINEHART
(505) 438-7877
LAWRENCE LUJAN
(505) 438-7628

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CHAPARRAL WILDFIRE FACT SHEET

Fire Name: Chaparral

Time/Date Started: 1630 hrs. on June 5, 2006

Location: 13 miles Southeast of Cuba, New Mexico in the vicinity of Smokey Bear Hill about 1 mile west of Chaparral Girl Scout Camp, located in the western portion of the Santa Fe National Forest; Township 19N; Range 1E; Section 15

Cause: Unknown

Fuels: Ponderosa Pine, Oak

Size: 5 acres +

Resources on scene or en route: 5 engines; 1 Type 2 Initial Attack handcrew from Bandelier National Monument; 3 Type 1 Hotshot crews; 20 miscellaneous overhead; Type 3 Team mobilized out of Santa Fe; 1 air attack; 1 Type 2 Helicopter; 1 Type 3 helicopter and 3 Air Tankers.

Threats: Wildland Urban Interface & the Chaparral Girl Scout Camp

Evacuations: Because of the location of this fire, a precautionary evacuation is underway at the Chaparral Girl Scout Camp. There are approximately 50 people being bused to Eichwald Catholic Center in Cuba. **The Girl Scout Camp and the campers are in no imminent danger** and the evacuations are being conducted as a precautionary measure.

Due to emergency traffic on the road it would be best if parents would not travel up to Cuba at this time. Parents should wait to be contacted by camp staff before traveling to Cuba. Parents can call the Sandoval County Dispatch Center @ 891-7226 to check on their kids after 8pm tonight.

Summary: An information center is being established at the Cuba Ranger Station, located off State Road 550. The fire has laid down and is currently not burning towards the camp. An ongoing hazardous fuels reduction project began in 1999 near the Camp.

